

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please cancel Claims 1-3, 6-10, 12, 14-16, 18 and 22, and amend Claims 4, 5, 11, 13, 17, 19 and 23 as shown below.

1.-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 17 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein said lens is ~~image reading unit includes a focus lens having~~ a rod lens array.

5. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 21 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein a contact surface between said ~~light source unit and said transparent original~~ illuminating device and said guide ~~unit~~ is provided with sliding preventing means.

6.-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 21 ~~[[3]]~~, further comprising positioning means for determining a relative position between the transparent original ~~and said transparent original and, said guide, unit~~ and said light source unit, and wherein, by the positioning of said positioning means, said light source unit can illuminate the entirety of at least any one image surface of among plural images included in the transparent original.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said positioning means include a convex/concave portion provided between said ~~transparent original~~ guide unit and said light source unit.

14.-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus for reading a transparent original in which a transparent original illuminating device, a transparent original, a transparent original plate, an imaging lens and a reading sensor are arranged in order, wherein said transparent original illuminating device is provided at its transparent original side with a plurality of urging portions disposed at positions corresponding to an out of an image area of the transparent original and protruded, less than a depth of field of said lens, above a light ~~generating~~ emitting surface, and the transparent original is urged against said transparent original plate by said urging portions.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein said plurality of urging portions are provided on an out, in a width direction of the transparent original, of a light emitting area of said transparent original illuminating device.

20. (Original) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein each of said plurality of urging portions is greater than a perforation hole of the transparent original.

21. (Original) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 17, further comprising a transparent original guide rested on said transparent original plate and adapted to determine positions of the transparent original and said transparent original illuminating device.

22. (Original) An image reading apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein said transparent original guide is provided with a spacer member located at a position out of an image area of the transparent original and inside of said urging portions between the transparent original and said transparent original plate.

23. (Currently Amended) A transparent original illuminating apparatus which is to be installed on a transparent original plate together with a transparent original when the transparent original is read by an image reading apparatus in which said transparent original plate, an imaging lens and a reading sensor are arranged in order,

wherein said transparent original illuminating apparatus is provided at its transparent original side with a plurality of urging portions disposed at positions corresponding to an out of an image area of the transparent original and protruded, less than a depth of field of said lens, above a light ~~generating~~ emitting surface, and the transparent original is urged against said transparent original plate by said urging portions.

24. (Original) A transparent original illuminating apparatus according to Claim 23, further comprising a transparent original guide for determining a position with respect to the transparent original.